

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/518,150

Examiner

Robert J. Sandy

Applicant(s)

TAKAMATSU ET AL.

Art Unit

3677

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 13 December 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 3 and 5-11.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date with this paper.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other approved drawing sheets.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael S. Leonard (Reg. No. 37,557) on 05 January 2007.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 have been amended according to the following final form:

Claim 2 has been canceled.

Claim 3. The end stop for the slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein the synthetic resin is composed of a curved sheet-like body.

Claim 6. The end stop for the slide fastener according to claim 3, wherein the sheet-like body covers surfaces of coupling heads, leg portions and connection portions in the linear fastener element row and is fused.

Claim 7. The end stop for the slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein the rod-like body is disposed inside linear fastener element rows in a non-coupled state and fused so as to form a top end stop.

Claim 8. The end stop for the slide fastener according to any one of claims 3 and 6, wherein the sheet-like body is disposed of surfaces of linear fastener element rows in a non-engaged state and fused so as to form a top end stop.

Claim 9. The end stop for the slide fastener according to claim 1, wherein the rod-like body is disposed inside linear fastener element rows in a coupled state and fused so as to form a bottom end stop.

Claim 10. The end stop for the slide fastener according to any one of claims 3 and 6, wherein the sheet-like body is disposed on surfaces of the linear fastener element rows in a coupled state and fused so as to form a bottom end stop.

Claim 11 A slide fastener, wherein a pattern formed by ink jet is represented on a fastener tape, and/or waterproof processing performed to the fastener tape on a surface side of a fastener chain having an end stop formed by fusing a rod-like body, which is a synthetic resin piece attached over a coupling space surrounded by a linear fastener element row and a core thread on a rear side of coupling heads of plural fastener elements located at a terminal end of the linear fastener element row made of synthetic resin and mounted on a side edge of the fastener tape.

EXAMINER'S COMMENT

In view of the above examiner's amendment, and applicant's response filed 13 December 2006, where claims 1, 5, 7, 9 and 11 have been amended, and at least for applicant's reason's set forth in the filed response on page 8 such that "Heimberger does not have a rod-like body surrounded by a linear fastener element row and a core thread on a rear side of coupling heads of plural fastener elements at a terminal end of a linear fastener element row. Applicants' claim 1 claims such structure.", claims 1, 5, 7, 9 and 11 are allowed. The claim objections and rejections indicated in the prior Office action each have been withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 are allowable. Claims 3, 6, 8 and 10, previously withdrawn from consideration as a result of a restriction requirement, each require all the limitations of an allowable claim. Pursuant to the procedures set forth in MPEP § 821.04(a), **the restriction requirement between inventions species, as set forth in the Office action mailed on 07 June 2006, is hereby withdrawn** and claims 3, 6, 8 and 10 are hereby rejoined and fully examined for patentability under 37 CFR 1.104. In view of the withdrawal of the restriction requirement, applicant(s) are advised that if any claim presented in a continuation or divisional application is anticipated by, or includes all the limitations of, a claim that is allowable in the present application, such claim may be subject to provisional statutory and/or nonstatutory double

Art Unit: 3677

patenting rejections over the claims of the instant application. Once the restriction requirement is withdrawn, the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 121 are no longer applicable. See *In re Ziegler*, 443 F.2d 1211, 1215, 170 USPQ 129, 131-32 (CCPA 1971). See also MPEP § 804.01.

Thus, in summary, claims 1, 3 and 5-11 are allowed.

In view of applicant's amendment to the abstract and drawings, the drawing sheets having been approved, all objections and rejection indicated in the prior Office action each have been withdrawn.

The information disclosure statement (IDS) filed on 13 December 2006 has been considered by the examiner.

Receipt is acknowledged of papers (application no. 2002-179532) filed in Japan on 20 June 2002) submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert J. Sandy whose telephone number is 571-272-7073. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-4:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J.J. Swann can be reached on 571-272-7075. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



ROBERT J. SANDY
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Robert J. Sandy
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3677



FIG. 25

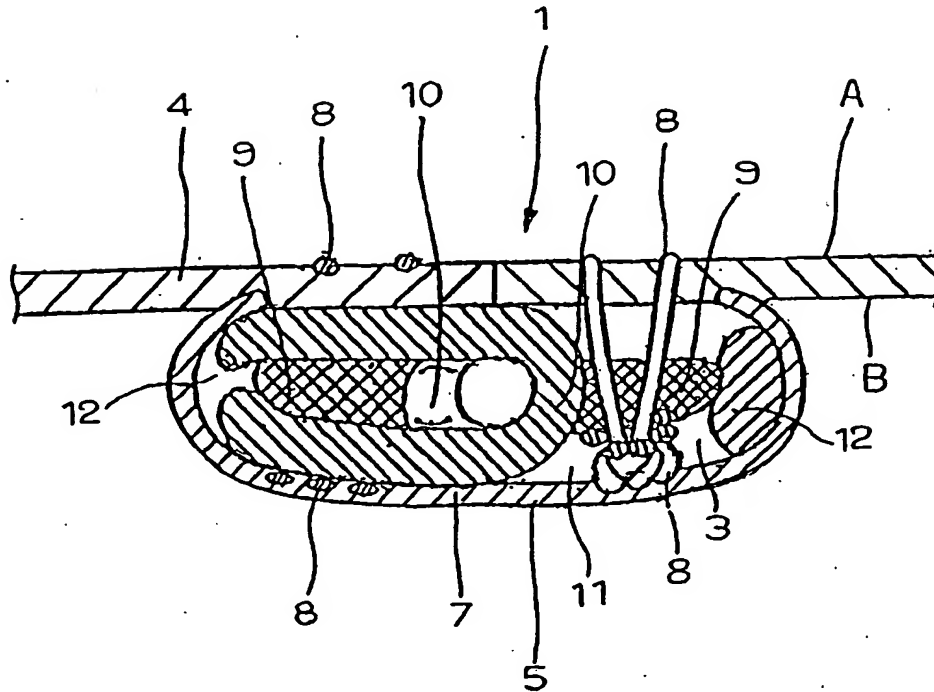


FIG. 26

PRIOR ART

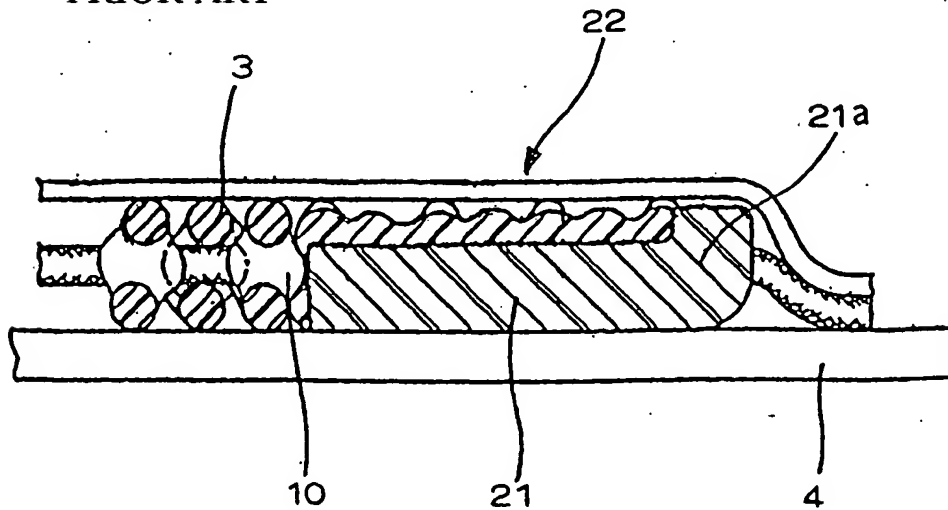


FIG. 27

PRIOR ART

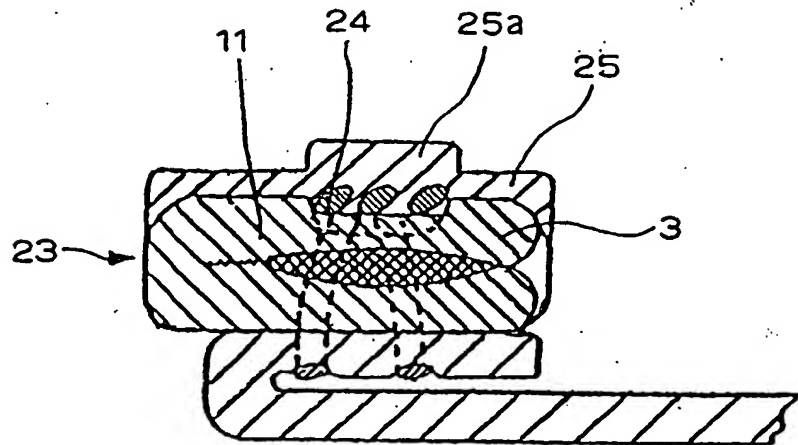
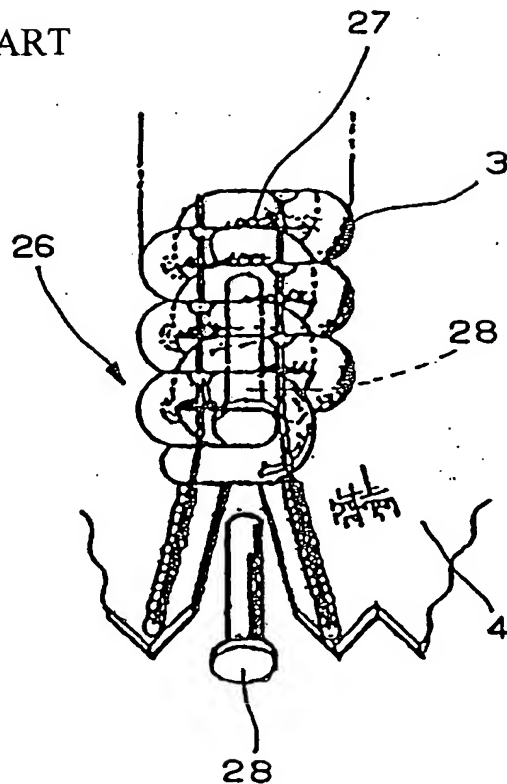


FIG. 28

PRIOR ART



Approved: [Signature] 01/05/2007